

“The Lamb,” “The Tyger,” “The Chimney Sweeper,” and “Infant Sorrow” by William Blake
Grammar and Style: Commonly Confused Words: *Rise* and *Raise*

The forms of the irregular verb *rise*, which means “to get up,” are often confused with those of the regular verb *raise*, which means “to lift or elevate.” The forms of the verb *rise* are *rise*, *rose*, *had risen*. The forms of the verb *raise* are *raise*, *raised*, *had raised*. Note the following examples:

Rise

Present: We *rise* early in the morning.

Past: I *rose* before the sun came up.

Past Participle: We *had risen* early in order to catch the first train.

Raise

Present: He *raises* the canoe onto the truck’s roof.

Past: I *raised* the bookshelf up a few inches.

Past Participle: She *had raised* both of the ladders onto the platform.

A. PRACTICE: *Underline the forms of the verb rise or raise in each of the following lines. In the blank, identify whether the verb is a form of rise or raise and identify the form in which it appears. The first one is done for you.*

1. The King rose one morning and decided he wanted to conquer the world.

rise: past tense

2. One night the King had a dream that the sun had risen in the west.

3. He called his ministers into council and raised the issue of conquest.

4. He took this dream as a bad omen and doubts rose in his mind.

B. Writing Application: *Rewrite each sentence using the verb tense of rise or raise indicated in parentheses.*

1. The sun had risen over the far horizon. (present)

2. We rise and gather up our camp equipment. (past)

3. Abigail and John raised the kayak onto the roof of the car. (past participle)

4. I watch as morning mist rises from the nearby river. (past)